

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-8 and 10 are pending in the present application. Claims 12 and 13 are cancelled by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Kaewell, Jr. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,256,339, herein "Kaewell") in view of Balachandran et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,108,374, herein "Balachandran"); and Claims 5-8 and 10 are allowed.

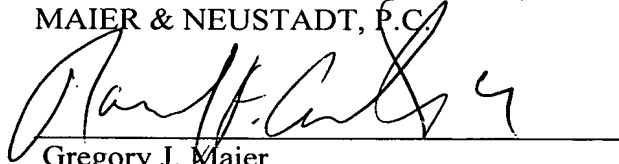
Initially, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the early indication of the allowable subject matter in Claims 5-8 and 10.

Accordingly, Applicants have cancelled Claims 12 and 13. Thus, the §103 rejection of Claims 12 and 13 over Kaewell and Balachandran are submitted to be moot.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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